MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes, Sir.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): In the face of the answer given to me just now that it is in the power of the Excise Commissioner to appoint petty officers, may I know from the Government whether the Excise Commissioner has appointed outsiders as petty officers overlooking the claims of acting persons?

MR. C.O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No, Sir. There is no question of overlooking claims. Acting vacancies of petty officers are generally filled up by Assistant Commissioners by giving promotions to peons in their respective Divisions. When temporary or permanent vacancies occur, they are filled up by the Excise Commissioner. The claims of qualified and competent peons in all the Divisions are then considered along with applications from qualified outsiders. As such vacancies are comparatively few, all the peons who are given acting vacancies of petty officers by the Assistant Excise Commissioners may not get permanent or temporary places.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): May I know from the member how, while the power of appointment vests with the Excise Commissioner, the Assistant Excise Commissioners, according to the Excise Commissioner, made various appointments?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): They can give grade promotions among the peons and also acting promotions as petty officers.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): May I take it that the Assistant Excise Commissioners have not made any fresh appointments as petty officers?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes. They cannot appoint outsiders as petty officers.

Transfers of Excise Peons and Petty Officers.

250. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of peons and petty officers the Excise Commissioner has transferred from one Division to another during the course of the year 1109 till the end of Medom 1109; and

(*b*) whether the transfers were effected as a sort of punishment to the persons who were transferred?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) 115 peons and 53 petty officers.

(*b*) In the case of 5 peons alone, the transfers were effected as a sort of punishment.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member why those peons, other than the five, were transferred?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): They were transferred in the exigencies of service.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether those peons were transferred to places very far from their native place?

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Perhaps, in the case of many it may be that they are sent far away from their places.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether, in the interests of efficiency of service, the poor-paid peons should be transferred to distant places without any fault on their part?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): That is not possible. If the member's suggestion should be practicable, each place should have as many peons belonging to that place as there are appointments.

The Director of State Guests Department.

251. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Government propose to create a new post as the Director of State Guests Department;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, who was looking after the convenience, etc., of the State Guests till now:

(*c*) what is the salary proposed to be paid to the Director:

(*d*) what necessity there is for the appointment of a Director newly for the purpose;

(*e*) whether it is true that Miss D. H. Watts, the retired Principal of the Women's College, is to be appointed as the Director? and

(*f*) what is the necessity for appointing a lady as the Director?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*e*). The member is referred to Notification R. O. C. No. 1477/33/Genl. the dated the 18th June 1934, published on page 1230 of the Gazette dated the 19th June 1934.

(*b*) The officers of the P. W. and Land Revenue Departments.

(*c*) Rs. 600.

(*d*) Owing to the large influx of distinguished visitors, the necessity for creating a separate department for the entertainment of State Guests under the supervision and control of an officer of status was felt.

(*f*) In the absence of any restriction *re* appointment of ladies, Miss Watts was appointed on account of her fitness for the post.

MR. S. J NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether there is one Mr. Irwin as the head of State Guest House?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Mr. Irwin is not the head of the State Guests Department.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether Mr. Irwin is not the Superintendent of the State Guests Department?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know the salary of Mr. Irwin in this connection?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): His salary is Rs. 400.

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